WHAT TO DO

BEFORE THE STORM

Have a family plan

Does your family know what to do before, during and after a storm? Do you have your emergency supplies on hand?

Do you have material on-hand to board up your doors and windows?

Do you have dead or weak branches which need to be trimmed?

Where will you go if asked to evacuate?

If there is a mandatory evacuation, do you know your route?

If not, go to SCDOT.org to determine your route in a mandatory evacuation.

Remember, if you leaving during a voluntary evacuation, you can take any route.

Do you have an out-of-state friend to serve as a liaison between you and your family and friends? Calling everyone may be difficult and reaching you may be difficult.

Have supplies ready

Do you have materials for securing your house NOW? Do you have cash since ATM's and banks may not be accessible? Do you have medications ready?

Decide NOW what valuables you need to take with you

Make a list while no storm is on the horizon.

Have a plan for your pets

Do you have records of necessary shots for your pets? Is your pet micro chipped? Do you have a carrier? Do you have a leash, extra food and a water container? Do you know where you can go with a pet?

AFTER THE STORM

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- Log on to the City of Charleston website for updates http://www.charlestoncity.info
 The website will contain updated conditions, city press releases, road openings, shelter information, debris removal, and more. This will be available to you if you have evacuated away from the area and when you are able to return. The Charleston County website will also provide updates: http://www.charlestoncounty.org/
- If in local area stay tuned to local media

Official disaster information will be released via newspaper, radio and television

• If you are a member of Facebook or Twitter

The City of Charleston's Facebook and Twitter pages will be updated with hurricane information. To receive updates from Facebook or Twitter become a member and search for "City of Charleston".

Limit your phone calls

Only make essential phone calls so as to not to overburden the wireless/land line systems

Assess the damage

Call your insurance company to file a claim if your home is damaged. If you begin clearing debris, be aware that it needs to be separated properly. When assessing damage use a flashlight, not candles.

Stay off the roads

Drive only when necessary. Allow time for crews to remove debris from the roadways.

Power could be off for an extended period

Have extra batteries on hand

If you have outdoor solar-powered lights, bring them inside at night for additional light